

MAPCC vies for National Certification

Jennifer Lowry, Medical Director for the Mid-American Poison Control Center (MAPCC), can breath a sigh of relief now that she and her staff have submitted their application for national certification.

"Tama, Carrie and I finished the certification application today, and it's on its way to the AAPCC offices (4 days early)!" said Lowry in an October 27 note to KDHE. "I just wanted to thank everyone who helped advise us on the application and dedicated their time to getting this completed. We couldn't have done it without everyone's involvement."

KDHE started working with the MAPCC in early April of 2001 when they announced their plan to apply for an HRSA federal grant. The purpose of the state grants was to address the failing infrastructure in the U.S. A memorandum of understanding showing close ties with the state health department was required for the application. Since that time Lowry and her staff have worked with KDHE staff on numerous issues relating to childhood injury prevention, prenatal care, bioterrorism and others.

The national certification review process is a lengthy one, but Lowry and her staff will receive word in Spring 2006. We wish them well.

Editor's Note: All phone calls to the national poison control hot-line (1-800-222-1222) from area codes in Kansas roll over to the MAPCC staff.